

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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To: All Individuals and Groups Interest in the Activities of the California
Commission on Teacher Credentialing

From: Dale A. Janssen,
Interim Executive Director

Subject: Basic Skills Requirement Exemptions for Prelingually Deaf Applicants

On August 23, 2006, Assembly Bill 49 (Benoit, Chapter 147, Stats. 2006), was signed into law allowing the expansion of the list of available preliminary credentials for candidates who are prelingually deaf, by including all credential types that have basic skills as a requirement for those serving in state special schools or in special classes for pupils with hearing impairments.

All other provisions of the basic skills requirement exemption for prelingually deaf candidates have not changed. This includes the use of a three-person panel appointed by the school district, county office of education or state special school based on criteria set by the Commission to verify the proficiency of the individual during their first two years of teaching. The authorization to be listed on the credential remains restricted to teaching or serving pupils who are enrolled in state special schools or in special classes for pupils with hearing impairments.

The credential sequence remains unchanged:

- Upon completion of initial requirements, a two-year preliminary will be issued;
- Upon successful evaluation by the three-person panel, a three-year preliminary extension will be issued for a total of five years on the preliminary credential document;
- After meeting all requirements, the professional clear will be issued.

For details on requirements and procedures, please see the Basic Skills Test Exemption Manual for Prelingually Deaf Candidates available on the Commission's website at www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/manuals-handbooks/PD_Manual.pdf.

Reference: §44265.7 of the Education Code is repealed, §44265.8 is amended, and §44265.9 is added so that there are no longer specific code sections for each credential type.